

DETAILED ACTION

1. The response filed on 1/28/2009 has been received and fully considered.
2. Claims 1-5 remain cancelled and 6-17 are presented for examination.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

3.1 Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Aaron Deditch (Reg. No. 33,865) on 03/30/2009.

3.2 The application is amended as follow:

Claims 6-15 are cancelled.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 16-17 are allowed.

4.0 The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

4.1 While Nier et al. discloses a distance measuring system for the spacing of vehicle, including providing control signal associated with a given lane, receiving signal from a transmitter and re-radiating the signal back to the receiver of trailing vehicle; and outputting a frequency model; and Winner et al. teaches a method for automatically detecting whether right-hand prevails in a traffic environment, *neither of these references* taken either alone or in combination with the prior art of record discloses a method for lane allocation of vehicles on a multi-lane roads, by using a model-based lane and misalignment detection that includes

correlating an instantaneously determined, current lateral displacement histogram to every stored reference lane model, wherein a result of every correlation from the instantaneous lateral displacement histogram to one of the reference lane models is a correlation result that increases as a similarity of the instantaneous lateral displacement histogram increases as to the reference histogram and selecting a reference histogram having the highest correlation to determine the acquired information, as specifically claimed in the independent claim 16; and furthermore fails to teach or fairly suggest obtaining a histogram having a plurality of maxima according to a number of lane and determining a horizontal misalignment angle by determining a centroid of the histograms, as shown in dependent claim 17, *in combination* with the remaining elements and features of the instant invention, it is for these reasons that the applicant's invention defines over the prior art of record.

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andre Pierre-Louis whose telephone number is 571-272-8636. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri, 8:00AM-4:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paul L. Rodriguez can be reached on 571-272-3753. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217- 9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/A. P. L/
Examiner, Art Unit 2123

March 30, 2009

/Paul L. Rodriguez/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2123